

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-22 are pending. Claims 1 and 7-9 have been amended. Claim 6 has been cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

A. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,090,932) in view of Gonzalez et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,194,746). Applicant respectfully submit that this rejection is moot since claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6 which is believed allowable for at least the reasons set forth below. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

B. Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez and further in view of Ang et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,319,783). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 2-5 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

C. Claims 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez and further in view of Lee. (U.S. Patent No. 6,455,366). Although claim 6 has been cancelled, Applicants acknowledge that amended claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 6. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection, with respect to claims 1 and 9, at least because the Lee reference is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c).

The Lee reference is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) since it only qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and was commonly owned at the time the present invention was made. To fulfill the evidence requirement of MPEP 706.02(1)(2), Applicants submits that:

The present Application and U.S. Patent No. 6,455,366 (to Lee) were, at the time the present invention was made, owned by Hynix Semiconductor Inc.

Accordingly, Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

D. Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez and Lee and further in view of Kawai et al.. (U.S. Patent No. 6,284,664). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 7 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1 and because Lee is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

E. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez and Lee and further in view of Clark et al.. (U.S. Patent No. 5,242,468). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 8 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 1 and because Lee is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

F. Claims 10-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez and Ang and further in view of Economikos et al.. (U.S. Patent No. 6,198,167). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 10-17 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 1 by virtue of their dependence upon claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

G. Claims 18, 21, and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez, Ang and Economikos and further in view of Lee. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claims 18, 21, and 22 are believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above, i.e., Lee is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

H. Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez, Ang, Economikos and Lee and further in view of Kawai. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 19 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 18 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 18 and because Lee is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

I. Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Dieumegard in view of Gonzalez, Ang, Economikos and Lee and further in view of Clark. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Claim 20 is believed allowable for at least the same reasons presented above with respect to claim 18 by virtue of its dependence upon claim 18 and because Lee is not valid prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(c). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

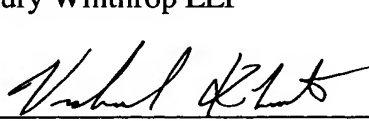
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the claims are now believed to be in form for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited. If any point remains in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 03-3975 under Order No. 82118/282792. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
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